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~~Rules and Regulations~~
OF THE
~~3883 D. 2 C. 1~~
Quebec Providence,
and Friends
S O C I E T Y.

ESTABLISHED THE FIRST WEDNESDAY IN
MAY, M.DCC.LXXXIX. - 1789

HELD AT THE MERCHANT'S COFFEE-HOUSE.

*Quebec: Printed by the Author,
AT THE
HERALD PRINTING-OFFICE.*

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Rules and Regulations, &c &c.

WE the subscribing members, for the mutual support, help and comfort of each other in sickness, lameness, blindness, or the infirmities of age; agree to support the same by equal contributions, for the several purposes herein specified, and subject to the following rules and regulations.

I.

THAT this society shall not consist of more than fifty members, to meet the first WEDNESDAY in each calendar month; from the first of May to the first of September, at the hour of seven P. M. and from the first of September to the first of May following, at the hour of six P. M.

II.

THAT every member of this society shall pay unto the treasury, two shillings

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and six-pence currency, on the first *Wednesday* in every month, and six-pence currency to defray the expences of the night: all payments, fines and forfeitures, shall be paid to the treasury at every quarterly meeting, before the books are closed, which shall be at the hour of nine in the eight winter months, and ten P. M. the four summer months; any member so neglecting, shall forfeit two shillings currency; and if he do not pay the same on the first meeting after the said quarterly night, to forfeit three shillings: the Secretary then shall send him notice in writing, and if not paid then, with all fines and forfeitures; the next meeting night after such written notice, to be excluded. The aforesaid quarterly meetings shall be always held on the following days: viz. the first *WEDNESDAY* in the months of *May, August, November* and *February*.

III.

THAT every member who subscribes his name to these rules and regulations, for

for the establishment of the society, shall pay to the treasury the sum of one pound, three shillings and four-pence currency, for the purpose of raising a fund for the said society; exclusive of his monthly payments; and no member shall be entitled to any benefit whatever, until the expiration of twelve calendar months.

IV.

THAT every member who shall be admitted after the first Wednesday in May, shall pay unto the treasury the sum of one pound, three shillings and four-pence currency, for his admission; or, any other sum the society may hereafter agree upon, and shall not be free until the expiration of twelve calendar months from the time of his admission, the said sum to be paid on the night of his being proposed. Should, previous to the expiration of twelve months, any person wish to join the society during that time, he being in sound health of body, requesting the indulgence to participate with us, the establishment of the society;

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on his paying equal proportion with the first founders, shall be entitled to receive the same benefits.

V.

THAT there shall be a *President*, *Vice-President*, *Treasurer*, *Secretary* and *Steward*; who shall be chosen by a majority of the members present at the annual meeting: if any member when elected refuses to serve any of the above offices, shall pay the following fines, viz. *President* 5s. *Vice-President* 2s. & 6d. *Treasurer* 5s. *Secretary* 10s. *Steward* 10s. and then proceed to a fresh election, subject to the same fines, until some will serve: but if any of the officers who served last be immediately rechosen, and it shall not be agreeable for them to serve, they shall not be subject to any fine, and the society shall proceed to a new election.

VI.

THAT if the *President* shall not come, or send the key to the society by eight o'clock in the summer, or seven in

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the winter, he shall be subject to the fine of 5s. and also, that the President, shall give notice to the Vice-President, at least, six hours before the time, if he cannot attend. If neither the President or Vice-President attend, then, the members present, shall proceed to elect some member then present, to be President for that night; and if the Vice-President, doth not attend after such notice from the President, he shall be fined 2s. & 6d.

VII.

THAT if any member serving the office of President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward shall depute any other member to officiate for him, then the said President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward shall not be subject to any fine, provided the keys be sent, and the society's business not impeded by their neglect; and whoever officiates for the Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward must bring their proper reports from the sick members, or the said Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward to be subject to the full fine.

VIII.

R U L E S A N D

VIII.

THAT when the society hath subsisted twelve calendar months, no member shall be elected to serve any of the offices, or hold stock, but such as are free members.

IX.

ALL persons intending to become members of this society shall be proposed on a meeting night by a member, who shall declare to the President, that the person nominated is a man of credit and reputation, and is in a visible way of getting his living. The person so proposed shall declare himself in perfect health, and shall pay down such sum or sums of money to the treasury, as is at the time of his being proposed the then fixed sum of admission; and the Steward previous to the next night of meeting shall make a strict and particular enquiry into his character and morals, and make a faithful report to the society, the next meeting night. If the candidate be approved of, he shall be admitted on paying as above,

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and if not approved of, the money to be returned: but if he be accepted, and shall after that decline his intention of becoming a member, then the said sum, or sums to be forfeited to the treasury.

X.

IF any free member shall be rendered incapable by sickness, lameness, blindness, or infirmities of age, of following his trade, or employment, upon his giving notice in writing to the Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward, who shall be obliged to send within 24 hours to the President or Vice-President, (whose names and place of abode shall be always left at the place of meeting) or in default of so sending to forfeit to the treasury 5s. The said sick member shall receive the sum of 15s. currency per week from the treasury, during the time of his illness, unless it continues above twelve weeks, then to receive 7s. & 6d. currency, as long as the said illness shall continue: and in the notice, he shall give

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an account of his disorder in the best manner he can, or some person for him; and if it shall be thought necessary by the Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward for the time being, that a physician or surgeon shall be called in, that, then with the consent of the officers, the Steward be invested with power to send a physician or surgeon to visit the said member, and that the Steward shall pay the physician or surgeon for such visit, and that the physician, or surgeon report the same to the Treasurer; that the said sum may be paid the Steward out of the treasury. In order to prevent impositions on the society, relative to such member, it is agreed and resolved that any member declaring on the treasury, agreeable to this article, as sick, or lame, &c. and it shall appear afterwards in the judgment of the surgeon, or apothecary, together with that of a physician, that they do not think him intitled to the weekly benefit of the treasury, that, then in such case, the said member shall be forever excluded the society.

N. B.

REGULATIONS, &c. II

N. B. If any member be afflicted with the venereal disease, he shall not be intitled to receive any weekly money during his illness, occasioned by such disorder. But his widow or children shall not be excluded the benefit of the treasury, in case he should die by such disorder. And also it is further agreed, that each member notwithstanding his illness, shall constantly pay his monthly money into the treasury as if in health.

XI.

IF at any time any member should be on a journey exceeding four miles from the place of meeting, and be afflicted with sickness, lameness, or blindness, upon a certificate, signed by the physician, surgeon, or apothecary attending him, and by the curate, capt. of militia, or justice of peace, where he shall be so afflicted, the said certificate being sent to the President, Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward, once in every four weeks, shall be intitled to the benefit of the treasury, as though in town.

XII.

THAT if any member after receiving 15s. per week, for ten or eleven weeks successively, and shall declare of the treasury, if he was sick at the same time of declaring off the treasury, and by that means he fraudulently intended to impose on the society, he shall be forever excluded.

XIII.

ANY member declaring on the treasury, shall be visited by the Treasurer, Secretary, and Steward, or either two of them immediately on his report, omitting of which they shall jointly forfeit to the treasury the sum of 5s. and he shall be visited by them in turns at least once a day during his illness; and that they leave a notice in writing with the sick member, of the day and hour of such visit, and the last visitor previous to the monthly meeting, shall produce all such notices to the society, for their information, if the sick member is treated agreeable to their liberal and laudable intention, and

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REGULATIONS, &c. 13

in omitting the same they all be fined 5s. and when any member all declare off the treasury, the same shall be done in writing and sent to the Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward, to the following effect:

"I declare off receiving my weekly money from the treasury."

Mentioning the time of his said declaring off.

XIV.

And if any member shall be found working at his trade or calling, while he doth receive the benefit of the treasury, and shall not have declared off, he shall be excluded. Nevertheless this article does not mean to exclude a member from giving directions to his servants, or writing a receipt, provided the Treasurer, Secretary and Steward deem him incapable of working at his business.

XV.

XV.

THAT at the death of any free member, there shall be allowed to the person intitled to receive the same, the sum of five pounds currency for defraying the funeral charges: to be paid the first night of meeting after the said funeral. And if the society are in possession of 100l. stock, 10l. shall be paid to the widow, or children of the deceased member; if of 200l. 15l.---300l. 20l.---400l. 25l.---500l. 30l. and in like proportion should it exceed the last mentioned sum. On the death of a free member's wife, he shall be allowed the sum of five pounds currency, for funeral expences, if required; and demanded the first night of meeting after the funeral. N. B. The last allowance can be claimed but once.

XVI.

THAT it be agreed by this society, if any member belonging to the said society should die, and the treasury not in possession of 100l. stock at the same time, in such

such case, each member shall immediately pay a proportion to make up the sum of ten pounds, to be paid to the widow, or children of said deceased member, if requested or demanded. Any member dying intestate, having neither wife nor children, his claim on the treasury to be considered as a legacy left to the society, except in respect to the funeral allowance.

XVII.

THAT upon the misbehaviour of any member, or members on a meeting night, by challenging to fight, or game, by offering wagers, party disputes, obscene discourse, oaths or drunkenness, for every such offence, shall be fined 1s. and not being silent when three times demanded by the President, or presiding officer, he or they so misbehaving shall forfeit 2s. & 6ds. each, and upon any further misbehaviour the same evening, the said member or members shall quit the room at the request of the President or presiding officer, or forfeit the sum of 10s.

XVIII.

XVIII.

THAT if any member or members shall at any time vilify, speak disrespectfully, or say any thing by way of ridicule, or prejudice to the society, concerning the same, to any person, or persons that may hurt the good intent thereof, the fact being proved to the society; we are hereby impowered to inflict such fine on the member, or members so offending, as we may think proper according to the nature of the said complaints, which shall appear before us. Any member, or members refusing to pay the fines for such offences, must abide by the consequences in rule II.

XIX.

THAT if any member shall at any time change his place of abode, he shall send notice in writing to the Secretary of the same, within 28 days after such removal, or he shall forfeit 2s. & 6d. to the treasury.

XX.

XX.

THAT all disputes which may arise on a meeting night, shall be decided by the members then present, by holding up of hands, if no member demands a ballot, and that any bill for altering, or making any new laws, shall be laid before the society three meeting nights, before it be decided as above. N. B. All bye laws hereafter made, shall be equally binding as those already made.

XXI.

THAT whatever sum, or sums of money may be put out at interest, shall be on landed security, and no other: and shall be in the names of the President, Vice-President, and Treasurer for the time being, as Trustees for the society, they giving a declaration of the security, which shall be deposited in the society's chest; and every expence attending the same, shall be paid out of the treasury.

XXII.

THAT if any law suit be commenced against the society, or any member, or

members thereof, touching or concerning these laws, or any other matter relating to the society; the charges for defending the same, shall be defrayed by the treasury, or by equal contribution of each and every member, provided the treasury cannot afford the same: and upon any such contribution, every member shall be repaid the same out of the treasury, as soon as there is a sufficient stock.

XXIII.

THAT no person shall be admitted a member of this society, whose place of residence exceeds four miles from the city of Quebec; but, should any free member remove, and become a resident in any other part of the Province, if he pays, or causes his dues to be regularly paid, on his sending the proper vouchers, as specified in rule XI. he shall be intitled to the benefits therein mentioned.

XXIV.

Any member of this society intending to take a long journey, or a voyage to

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England, &c. &c. shall inform the officers of the society with his intentions, who are empowered to grant him a certificate, specifying the time he been a member, and the allowance he has a right to claim from the society. Should the said member during his journey, be afflicted with sickness, lameness, blindness, &c. &c. he shall transmit information of the same to the society agreeable to rule XI. Should there not be a regular conveyance, from the place where such member may be afflicted, he is to send the state of his disorder, in the best manner he possible can, should he not be able to attend a magistrate, or the other proper persons, he shall cause two persons to make affidavit of his situation, and send it (if possible) every month to the society. Should the said member not have occasion to use the certificate, on his return he shall deliver it to the Treasurer.

XXV.

THAT no person be admitted a member of this society who is under the age of 21 years, and above 45. XXVI.

XXVI.

EACH member is to furnish himself with a copy of these rules and regulations, for which he shall pay unto the treasury 1s. & 3d.

XXVII.

THAT the meeting of society be announced in a News-paper the 1st Monday of every month, specifying if a monthly or quarterly meeting the Wednesday following.

XXVIII.

THAT this society shall not be dissolved, without the consent of four-fifths of the members belonging thereto, who shall have proper notice of the society's intention, (if any such should ever happen) nor shall this society be removed from one house to another, without the consent of the foregoing majority, the same number is likewise to determine the election of a new member.

QUEBEC, May 1, 1789.

WE whose names are hereafter written and subscribed, as members of the QUEBEC PROVIDENT, BENEVOLENT and FRIENDLY SOCIETY; established the 1st of MAY, 1789: Do promise to maintain, uphold and support; and agree to be bound by all the printed or written Rules and Regulations, or Bye-Laws as are now contained in this book; and to all such other Rules and Regulations, or Bye-Laws, as the majority of the free members present, on any of the quarterly meeting nights, shall think proper to make for the benefit and good of this society. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names,

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Henry Juncken, | John Jones, |
| John Rees, | Wm. Moore, |
| Godfrey King, | John Fraser, |
| A. Ferguson, | James Hanna, |
| | John |

WE

John Saul,
Jonathan Eckart,
George Pashley,
John Chillas,
Daniel Fraser,
William Grant,
John Urquhart,
Josias Wurteler,

Thos. Ferguson,
John Ayton,
John Rhynart,
Anthony Vansel-
son,
William Laing,
John Robertson,

At the beforementioned meeting the
following members were chosen officers
for the year ensuing.

Henry Juncken, President;
Jonathan Eckart, Vice-President;
Godfrey King, Treasurer;
John Jones, Secretary;
William Moore, Steward.

LIST

*LIST of Payments, Forfeitures,
and Benefactions.*

| | L. | S. | D. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|-------|
| Entrance Money, | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Monthly payment, | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Dues not paid at the quarterly meeting, | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| If not paid the meeting after, | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Refusing to serve as President, | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Ditto ditto Vice ditto, | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Ditto ditto Treasurer, | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Ditto ditto Secretary, | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Ditto ditto Steward, | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| President not attending on a meeting night, or giving timely notice to the Vice, | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| Vice-President not attending, after due notice, | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| Treasurer, Secretary, or Steward neglecting to report the state of the afflicted in due time, | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| T. S. or S. not visiting the sick on report, each, | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| | | | T. S. |

| | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----|---|
| T. S. or S. not sending the reports of the sick, on a meeting night, | ○ | 5 | ○ |
| Omiting to acquaint the so- ciety of a removal, | ○ | 2 | 6 |
| Misbehaviour on nights of meeting, first offence, | ○ | 1 | ○ |
| Second ditto, | ○ | 2 | 6 |
| Third ditto, | ○ | 10 | ○ |
| Price of these rules, &c. | ○ | 1 | 3 |

P A Y to the SICK, &c.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---|----|---|
| First 12 weeks, per week, | ○ | 15 | ○ |
| As long as sickness continues after, | ○ | 7 | 6 |
| For funeral charges. | 5 | 0 | 0 |

F I N I S.

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2 6
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1 3

5 0
6 0

